



DUE DATE: NOVEMBER 22ND, 2011

זֶכֶר יָמֹת עוֹלָם, בֵּינֵנוּ שָׁנוֹת דֹּר-דֹּר; {ס} שְׁאַל
אֲבִיךָ וַיִּגְדֶּךָ, זִקְנֶיךָ וַיֹּאמְרוּ לָךְ. {ר}

**"Remember the days of old, consider the years of ages past.
Ask your ancestor, your elders, they will tell you..."
(Deuteronomy 32:7)**

The Roots & Wings Project

This year, our Tikkun Olam time together is divided into three parts. Each of these parts is based on one of the statements from Hillel's famous teaching from Pirkei Avot (1:14):

"If I am not for myself, who will be for me?
If I am only for myself, what am I?
And if not now – when?"

The first of these questions allows us the opportunity to delve further into our discussions about identity. In order to be 'for ourselves,' we need to know who we are and how our identity is defined and shaped.

This project will provide you with a framework for exploring where you came from because that is a huge part of who you are.

Our memories – both individual and collective – are fundamental to who we are. You will find out from talking with people in your family – parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, great aunts/uncles the stories which they **individually** remember. And by telling those stories, you are adding to the **collective** memory of all of us as people. Your family's history is an important part of the history of our people!

The components of this project are:

- 1) Find out the facts
- 2) Map the journey
- 3) Make a timeline – personal as well as historical/political
- 4) Figure out who is on your family tree – up to 3 generations back
- 5) Reproduce flags of the countries from which your family came
- 6) Find out and write down at least one sentence in the language of origin
- 7) Conduct a formal interview with the family member who knows the most family history.
- 8) In a narrative essay, tell that person's story – which is also part of your story.
- 9) Artifacts – preserved pieces of history. See the description below.

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THE MAP

Find and select an image of a world map on which you will chart the your family's travels and settlings.

People have moved a lot over the past generations looking for a better place to live and a better life. Trace on a map, to the best of your ability, from which country in Europe (or elsewhere), your ancestors came and how your parents came to live in Vancouver. Ask your parents and/or grandparents to list all the places they have lived and mark them on your map. Including only your direct bloodline relatives back three generations (great-grandparents, grandparents, parents, and yourself), mark locations and track settlement of your family line. Be sure to explain and describe your map clearly.

THE TIMELINE

Your timeline will be two-sided. One side will be for landmark events in your family history. The other side will be for events in world history, on which you may also choose to include important events from Jewish/Israeli history.

Like your map, the family side of your timeline should be based on events in the lives of your direct ancestors (great-grandparents, grand-parents...etc.) Lifecycle milestone events such as births, deaths, weddings, b'nei mitzvah, major moves...etc. would be appropriate for your family timeline.

FAMILY TREE

To begin the work of preparing the family tree for your project, go to the following website, download and print a free family tree template. Fill in the template by hand first and then use it to create the family tree for your project.

http://www.obituarieshelp.org/free_printable_blank_family_tree.html

Your family tree is different from the other parts of this project in that you are free to include relatives from outside your direct bloodline. As you collect information about your relatives, you will learn about their siblings (your great-great and great aunts and uncles, cousins...etc.). Since you have the information available to you, you may include it if you wish. You must, however, clearly differentiate between individuals who are your direct ancestors and those who are not.

FLAGS

On your presentation, please paste maps for all the countries that are part of your family's history.

LANGUAGES OF ORIGIN

Over the course of generations in a family, not only do we often live in many places, but we also speak many different languages. Choose a common English phrase and write it down in all of the different languages of origin for your family. Perhaps, you may even learn how to speak the phrase in the different languages yourself!

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The Interview

The following is a list of possible questions you may ask when you are gathering information about your family history. You do not HAVE to use these questions – these are suggestions for interviewing your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents for your project on your family tree.

1. Where were you born?
2. How many children were in your family?
3. What was your childhood home like?
4. What language(s) did you speak?
5. What kind of education did you have (in the old country/Canada)?
6. How far did you go in school?
7. When did you start your working career?
8. If you had a business, where was it located?
9. How old were you when you came to Canada? Vancouver?
10. What was your new home in Canada like?
11. Did you come with your family?
12. What was your life like when you first came to Canada?
13. Why did you/your family choose to come to Canada?
14. How old were you when you first worked in Canada?
15. Were you paid a fair wage?
16. Did you ever encounter prejudice or discrimination?
17. How many hours per day/week did you work?
18. Were you affected by the Depression?
19. How old were you when you got married?
20. How did you meet your spouse-to-be?
21. How many children did you have?
22. Did you live in a Jewish neighborhood? What made it Jewish?
23. If it was not a Jewish neighborhood, what made it possible to stay connected to Judaism and the Jewish community?
What kind of relations did you have with non-Jews?
24. Were you involved in the Jewish community? How so?
25. What kind of Jewish education did you receive?
26. How did your family observe Judaism at home?
27. What customs, holidays, rituals were important to your family?

28. Was Israel discussed in your home?
29. What memories do you have of Jewish practices from when you were younger?

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ARTIFACTS

Please be sure to gather photocopied materials – DO NOT USE ORIGINALS!!!

1. Find photographs, stamps, postcards, coins, or currency from one of your family member's "old country."
2. Eating your way through history...
Ask your parents and older ancestors what their favorite foods were when they were youngsters. See if there is a traditional family recipe that has been passed down through the generations. Try to get the recipe and include it in your project.
3. Did your ancestors have favorite musicians, actors, celebrities? Is there an item or article in your house or ancestors' home that was passed down from long ago as an heirloom? What special meaning does it have for your parents? Feel free to photograph it and include it in your project).
4. If you come across any important genealogical documents, explain its purpose, when it was issued and needed, and any interesting facts about it.

Roots & Wings Requirements & Evaluation

Your project must be presented using a tri-fold presentation board for display purposes. You do have the opportunity to take creative license with your visual presentation, but please check with Rabbi Bellas and Miss Davey for approval first.

A. Components included:

- a. Map
- b. Timeline
- c. Family Tree
- d. Interview
- e. Flag(s)
- f. Sentence (s) in language(s) of origin

B. Personal Narrative:

Can the reader hear voice in this piece?

Are writing conventions properly executed?

C. Presentation/Effort

Is the reader engaged by what you have done and the way you have done it?

**THIS PROJECT WILL MAKE UP 40% OF YOUR OVERALL TIKUN OLAM GRADE
EACH DAY YOUR PROJECT IS LATE WILL RESULT IN A -5 POINTS.**